

Docket No: 2354/140

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#3A
NEAL

Applicants: **Graham John Hamilton, Melrose;**)
Gerry Daly, & Andrew James Huxham)
) U.S. Serial No.: **To be assigned**)
) Filed: **Herewith**)
) PCT International)
Application No.: **PCT/AU00/00107**)
) Filed: **16 February 2000**)
) For: **ANTIMICROBIAL POLYMERIC**)
COMPOSITIONS)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231
BOX: PCT

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

In the Claims:

A1 7. A method according to claim 2 wherein the solvent includes an alkali selected from an alkali hydroxide, alkali carbonate and mixtures thereof.

A1 8. A method according to claim 2 wherein the alkali is sodium hydroxide, sodium carbonate or mixture thereof.

12. A method according to claim 1, characterised in that the solution is heated for a period of between 1 to 1,400 hours, thereby increasing antimicrobial activity of the polymers.

A2 13. A method according to claim 1, characterised in that the solution is heated for a period in the range of from 4 to 60 hours.